


MEMORANDUM

TO: Docket Control

FROM: Elijah O. Abinah  
Director  
Utilities Division  
FOR

DATE: July 19, 2021

RE: IN THE MATTER OF THE PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO THE RULES  
REGARDING TERMINATION OF SERVICE (DOCKET NO. E-00000A-19-  
0132)

SUBJECT: APS'S RESPONSE TO RECENT HEAT RELATED INCIDENT

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Pursuant to the letters docketed on June 23, 2021, and June 30, 2021, by Chairwoman Marquez Peterson, Utilities Division Staff ("Staff") is providing information regarding a heat related incident in Arizona Public Service Company's ("APS") service territory.

Attached is the Maricopa County Medical Examiner's Preliminary Investigative Report provided by APS to Staff's inquiry. All confidential customer-specific information has been redacted from the report.

EOA:BNC:la/MAS

Originator: Blessing Chukwu



# Maricopa County

Office of the Medical Examiner

701 W. Jefferson St., Phoenix AZ 85007  
Telephone: (602) 506-1138 FAX: (602) 372-8696

## Preliminary Investigative Report

Case Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Case Type: Admit

Transported From \_\_\_\_\_ Reported Date/Time 5/13/2021 5:07 PM

Person reporting death Klingensmith #8903, Ofc. Jason Report Received By Martinez, Davida

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Agency Phoenix PD

Decomposed? Yes Weight \_\_\_\_\_ Intake Date / Time 5/13/2021 8:13 PM

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Name \_\_\_\_\_

Alias(es) \_\_\_\_\_

ID Method Presumptive: Circumstances/Elimination

Identification Notes \_\_\_\_\_

Agency of Death Phoenix PD Agency of Incident Phoenix PD

Officer Klingensmith #8903, Ofc. Jason Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ DR # \_\_\_\_\_

Ready for Response Date/Time 5/13/2021 5:46 PM Date/Time of Death 5/13/2021 3:56 PM

DOB \_\_\_\_\_ SSN \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_

Ethnicity \_\_\_\_\_ Race \_\_\_\_\_ Marital Status \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City Phoenix State AZ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Transient? \_\_\_\_\_ Work Related? \_\_\_\_\_ Pathologist Michalicek, Zachary

Declined By \_\_\_\_\_ Date/Time \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed By \_\_\_\_\_

Custodial Agency Involved Death? No Custody Category \_\_\_\_\_

Jurisdictional Criterion \_\_\_\_\_

Preliminary Sub Manner of Death Environment - Heat associated

Departed Office Date/Time 5/13/2021 6:00 PM Arrived at Scene Date/Time 5/13/2021 6:13 PM

Departed Scene Date/Time 5/13/2021 6:58 PM Arrived at Office Date/Time 5/13/2021 7:05 PM

Scene Attendees Moser, Alicia/MDI, Staff; Walsh, Bonita/MDI, Volunteer

Death Place Address \_\_\_\_\_ Death Place Type \_\_\_\_\_

City Phoenix State AZ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ County Maricopa

Illness/Injury Address \_\_\_\_\_ Illness/Injury Place Type \_\_\_\_\_  
City Phoenix State AZ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Date/Time of Injury \_\_\_\_\_

Next of Kin \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Notified? Yes

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Funeral Home \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Decedent's Physician \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Fax # \_\_\_\_\_

Records requested from \_\_\_\_\_ Date Requested 5/13/2021

Requested by: Moser, Alicia

Records requested from \_\_\_\_\_ Date Requested 5/13/2021

Requested by: Haug, Courtney

Records requested from \_\_\_\_\_ Date Requested 5/13/2021

Requested by: Moser, Alicia

Medical History Source Type Electronic Medical Records Entered By Moser, Alicia

Per \_\_\_\_\_, the decedent had no medical history. \_\_\_\_\_ was under the care of Dr. \_\_\_\_\_ and was last seen on 01/04/2021. Records were saved into OnBase. No hospital records were found.

Per \_\_\_\_\_, no records were found.

Medical History Source Type Law Enforcement Entered By Moser, Alicia

On 05/13/2021 at 1739 hours I spoke to Officer Klingensmith #8903 with the Phoenix Police Department and obtained the following information: The decedent is tentatively identified as \_\_\_\_\_. The decedent had no diagnosed medical history and was known to not see a doctor unless it was in \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_ was last known to be alive on 05/07/2021 by a \_\_\_\_\_ that comes and cleans the property. The decedent was residing in a makeshift residence that was a shed located in the back lot on an unknown persons property.

On 05/13/2021 the \_\_\_\_\_ came by again to clean the property and went to the shed to check on the decedent, as the power had just recently been shut off. When \_\_\_\_\_ went inside, \_\_\_\_\_ observed the decedent to be obviously deceased lying in bed. The Phoenix Fire Department E14 B shift arrived on scene and pronounced \_\_\_\_\_ deceased at 1556 hours without resuscitative efforts. The decedent is in an early stage of decomposition with evidence of bloating and discoloration to the face. There was noted to be no working electricity inside the shed, as it had been turned off. There was several fans and a small AC unit inside. There is no concern for trauma, foul play, or suspicious circumstances.

Medical History Source Type Law Enforcement Entered By Moser, Alicia

On 05/13/2021 at 1813 hours I, Investigator Alicia Moser #77 and MDI volunteer Bonita Walsh arrived on scene and was greeted by Officer Klingensmith #8903 with the Phoenix Police Department who confirmed all information provided prior to be true and correct. \_\_\_\_\_ stated that \_\_\_\_\_ did not know who the homeowner of the property was.

**Medical History Source Type** Photographs

**Entered By** Moser, Alicia

Photographs were taken by I, Investigator Alicia Moser #77.

**Medical History Source Type** NOK / Family Reference

**Entered By** Moser, Alicia

On 05/13/2021 at 1840 hours I spoke to the decedent's [redacted] on scene and obtained the following information: Demographic information was confirmed. The decedent had no diagnosed medical history and was not under the care of a physician, to [redacted] knowledge. [redacted] was not a user of illicit substances. [redacted] was a daily user of tobacco (unknown how much [redacted] would smoke daily) and occasional user of alcohol. [redacted] had no history of suicidal ideations, thoughts, or attempts. The decedent had no recent complaints. [redacted] stated that over a month ago the decedent was complaining of vomiting blood, however [redacted] did not see a doctor. [redacted] had no prior surgeries or no recent hospitalizations in Arizona or in [redacted]. The decedent was last known to be alive 2 days ago when [redacted] spoke with [redacted] over the phone. At that time, the decedent expressed no complaints to [redacted] and mentioned that the electricity had just been turned off. [redacted] stated that when [redacted] arrived on scene, [redacted] found a notice from APS that was dated 05/05/2021, account #6244, stating the electricity would soon be turned off. Prior to the electricity being turned off, the decedent had a small AC unit inside the shed. [redacted] identified the decedent as having no tattoos or scars. The decedent had a dentist only in [redacted] and was known to have dentures on the top. OME procedures were explained.

**Medical History Source Type** Specimens

**Entered By** Moser, Alicia

I, Investigator Alicia Moser #77 attempted to collect vitreous humor from the bilateral eyes while on scene, however due to decomposition I was unsuccessful.

**Medical History Source Type** NOK / Family Reference

**Entered By** Moser, Alicia

On 05/13/2021 at 2100 ours I spoke to the decedent's [redacted], to inquire about if [redacted] knew why the electricity had been turned off and who the homeowner of the residence was. [redacted] stated that [redacted] was the owner of the lot and had rented the residence out to an unknown individual. The renter did not pay the APS bill, therefor it had shut off on 05/11/2021.

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**Circumstances of Death:**

This [redacted] with no diagnosed medical history was found obviously deceased inside [redacted] residence by a household cleaner. The decedent resided in a shed that was located in the back of a residential lot. Death was pronounced on scene by the local fire department. It was noted that APS turned the electricity off 2 days ago.

**Last Seen Alive Date/Time** \_\_\_\_\_**Last Seen Alive By** \_\_\_\_\_**Narrative:**

Jurisdiction was accepted as an admit.

**Scene Description:**

I, Investigator Alicia Moser #77 and MDI volunteer Bonita Walsh arrived to the scene located at [redacted], Phoenix AZ [redacted]. The residence was located on the back lot of an unknown persons property with below average upkeep. Several empty bottles of beer were observed on a table that was located in front of the residence. The ambient temperature inside the residence was very warm and the approximate temperature was unknown, as there was no thermostat or working electricity. The outside temperature was 90 degrees Fahrenheit, per the weather app. Ample amounts of food and beverage were observed inside the refrigerator. A window AC unit was observed in the wall. The decedent was lying supine on his bed. An air filtration device, portable evaporative cooler, and a portable fan were on the ground in front of the bed.

**Body Condition:**

The body is of a [redacted] year old [redacted] found lying supine on [redacted] bed. [redacted] bilateral feet were resting on the ground beneath [redacted]. [redacted] was clothed in a shirt, underwear, and pants. [redacted] was warm to the touch and rigor mortis was unfixed in the jaw and extremities. Posterior livor mortis was fixed and consistent with the position found by OME personnel. [redacted] was in the beginning stages of decomposition with evidence of bloating and discoloration to the face. [redacted] approximate body temperature was 106.8 degrees Fahrenheit, per the infrared thermometer. The head was free of visible or palpable injury. The bilateral eyes were swollen and indistinguishable due to decomposition. The abdomen and extremities were without visible injury. A red OME identification band was affixed to the right ankle by OME personnel.

**Agency Attendees & Evidence Requests:**

The Phoenix Police Department does not wish to attend this postmortem examination. There is no evidence requests.

**Other Important Factors:**

Not applicable.

**Narrative Supplement(s)**